COTTON CHATS

FROM

DRAPER COMPANY

SHIPMAN'S
COMMON-SENSE BINDER

PATENTED

JANUARY 19, 1892. APRIL 19, 1904

To open binder, remove the slides from fasteners raise the fasteners to an erect position and then file papers. For punching: lay the papers on covers and mark sheets to correspond with fasteners.

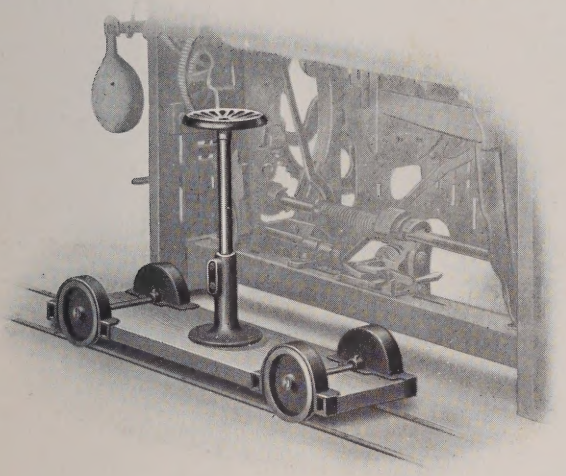
If DUPLICATE is wanted ORDER 25981

ASA L. SHIPMAN'S SONS
MANUFACTURERS,
NEW YORK.

COTTON CHATS

By the Secretary of the
DRAPER COMPANY,
HOPEDALE, MASS.

No. 64. AUGUST, 1907.



WEAVERS' SEAT.

"The successful cotton machinery inventions of the future will continue to lessen labor per product, make better product or cheapen machinery or processes. The possible field is necessarily narrowing all the while, since in many departments the operatives now do nothing but correct the faults in the material being treated, or merely assist in removing product or supplying material. There are some possibilities in higher speed, and also possibilities in spreading help over more machinery. When we note a spinner tending 1,500 spindles, or a weaver running 40 Northrop looms, we realize that it may be necessary to invent new types of human beings, if we require them to cover so much space; unless we adopt some transportation system, a suggestion by no means impractical."—From paper on Patents at meeting of American Cotton Association in Philadelphia.

The author was speaking at the time with fore-knowledge of the novelty now illustrated.

While we have believed for several years that we should ultimately see good weavers running 50 Northrop looms each, it is possible that such a feat will not be generally accomplished unless some way is found to relieve the weaver from the extra exercise taken in covering so much of space. The actual hand operations necessary in running 50 Northrop looms are not beyond the capability of an expert weaver, if warps are well made and well sized. Neither are the operations of putting bobbins in hoppers, or drawing in warp, necessarily fatiguing. The walking necessary in going from loom to loom does become exhausting, beyond a certain limit, and while weavers have run 36 and even 40 Northrop looms, in special instances, the average number is considerably less.

For several years a weaver in a prominent Southern mill has used a weaver's seat, which rolls on rails in the alley between the looms. A slight push sends the seat a considerable distance, and the weaver is also assisted in taking cloth from the looms to the end of the alley, as the platform to which the wheels are attached is sufficiently large to carry extra burdens. We found the idea sufficiently novel to allow a patent to be obtained, and we have full control of its introduction. We do not intend to make any profit out of the idea, however, but will sell it practically at cost to those who use our Northrop looms. We charge ten dollars for the seat and five cents per running foot for each rail. In contemplating a trial, it might be well, if a new mill is designed, to allow a little more space between the looms than is usual.

We foresee one possible error of use that needs a fore-warning in case of trial. The weavers should not be allowed to push against the hoppers to either start or stop the motion of the seat as they might thus be broken or loosened on their supports.

We are ready to take orders for these seats, and shall take considerable interest in noting the results to be obtained. We believe the average weaver would be glad to have the seat, **and take more looms at a less price per cut.**

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ONE HAND LOOMS.

We are the only builders of "One Hand Looms," so called, having adopted this idea on finding that with the

Northrop self-threading shuttle there was a difference in ease of threading between the two styles of hopper necessary, when using right and left-hand hoppers. In view of the common use of both-hand looms in general practice, which placed pulleys and belt holes in fixed position in old mills, we adapted our loom sufficiently to the conditions so as to allow the pulleys to be on either side, although the hopper is always on the right side and the shipper always on the left side. This concession to custom is still necessary whenever we put looms in old mills, but there is no reason why **new** mills should not have all their looms **exactly alike,** with pulleys always at the left side. We have already supplied one mill with looms of this character, and the advantages are obvious. There is absolutely no difference between the looms, and there are less repair parts necessary in stock.

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The Government Printing Office has issued a pamphlet on "Foreign Markets" for the sale of American cotton products, containing much of interesting information. It seems that our Chinese trade is mainly in sheetings and drills, the trade-mark known in China as a "Chop" being of great importance. Our trade-marks are imitated by English and Japanese mills, making competition active. The Japanese are making a studied attempt to monopolize this trade, the great house of Mitsui taking immediate charge of the introduction of Japanese goods. Our goods are preferred on account of their quality and the small percentage of size, but the Japanese are making a great point of the cheapness of their product, and using systematic attempts to take trade away from us. All of the cloth used for outer clothing is dyed by the Chinese after purchase. Cloth is used for clothes, linings, burial cloths, underwear, quilting lining, and covering of window space. The Chinese themselves weave large amounts of nankeen, it being understood that in certain parts of China the working population weaves all through the winter on hand looms. Chinese traders are exacting in requirements and insist on goods being absolutely up to sample. If the goods are inferior, the Chinese say that the "chop stinks"

and will not use them. It is well known that American goods have been rejected because their cuts were a few inches short in length. The Government Agent suggests that we might increase trade by poster advertising of our trade-marks, explaining the better quality of American goods, etc., since the Chinese are very curious and show great interest in such advertising as has been done by producers of other wares. The Agent further reports as follows:

"In most Japanese mills, the help is not sufficiently skilled to make cloth that can compete as to quality. With 100 Northrop looms in America, run by four skilled men, the cloth month by month is of exactly similar quality, the 'cover,' tension, etc., being maintained uniform. With 40 girls on 100 plain looms in Japan, it is impossible that they can be as highly trained, or attain as uniform results."

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Those who have persistently opposed automatic weaving, should take great interest in a catalogue which we have recently seen, issued by the Newcomb Loom Company, of Davenport, Ia. They claim to have built a half a million dollars worth of hand looms within the last twenty years, and are evidently increasing their business. The looms are run one to a weaver, the loom measuring four feet in width over all, and sells for $125. The earnings are evidently most satisfactory, since one woman is quoted who not only supported her own family from the money earned on one loom, but also sent two boys to high school and one son to college; in fact, the earnings are figured at least $3 per day, each. The same company makes cheaper looms at $50 and $30 each.

The product of this machine is rugs and rag carpeting, and we have no doubt but that it is admirably adapted for such purposes. We would recommend the builders to branch out into other fields, because if common loom users can prove to themselves that a machine is preferable which requires three times the labor necessary with the Northrop, they ought to welcome a loom which would require still more labor than that now necessary for their power driven common looms.